

CONFIDENTIAL

ER 11-2078/a

16 March 1959

Mr. John D. Alexander



Dear Mr. Alexander:

Reference your letter of 7 March 1959, addressed to Allen W. Dulles, Director of Central Intelligence, please be informed that the questions you ask concern U. S. foreign policy which is not a subject that this Agency may discuss.

Your inquiry might be made to the Department of State.


Sincerely,

/S/ S. J. Grogan

Stanley J. Grogan  
Assistant to the Director

O/DCI/SJGrogan:ppp (16 Mar 59)  
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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FILE

CONFIDENTIAL

March 7, 1959

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Allan Dulles  
Director of Central Intelligence  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

According to an article in the Cleveland Plain Dealer to-day, you are in agreement with President Eisenhower regarding maintaining our armed forces in Berlin.

Following are some questions regarding our Berlin policy which I wish you would answer for me:

Since we would be concerned if Russia, China, and Yugo-Slavia, for instance were maintaining their armed forces in Toronto, Canada, which is about the same distance from the United States border as Berlin is from the Russian border, and would request the withdrawal of these forces, why are we unable to understand Russia's concern over our armed forces in Berlin and refuse to give sympathetic consideration to her request that these forces be withdrawn?

Why do we insist on maintaining armed forces in Berlin, which is entirely within the Russian zone, while we refuse to permit Russia to maintain her armed forces in Bonn which is entirely within our zone?

Why do we feel we are justified in enforcing our Monroe Doctrine and at the same time feel that foreigners are not justified in objecting to our maintaining our armed forces in about forty seven foreign countries?

If we maintain our armed forces in Berlin because of agreements we have with England and France, why do we not negotiate the termination of these agreements?

Yours truly,

*John D. Alexander*  
John D. Alexander

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